

AN ENTERPRISING WESTERNER.

A Member of the Craft Leads in the Political Work and Campaign Issues in the Sun Flower State—J. Hume Childers Aspires to a Federal Office and Looks Like a Winner.

We present to the readers of The Colored American in this issue an excellent portrait of Mr. J. Hume Childers who has been a leader in the forces that have made for the race in the Sun Flower State for the past fifteen years. Mr. Childers is self-made in every sense of the word. In the early days of race journalism, when The Indianapolis Freeman was launched as the first illustrated newspaper published by Negroes, he was one of the earliest and



MR. J. HUME CHILDERS.

ablest contributors to that journal. His career is varied and his work has been a success. His life work reads like a romance wonderfully blended with the elements of romance and fiction.

Jasper Hume Childers, editor The Topeka Plaindealer was born in Williamstown, Grant County, Ky. August 7th, 1867. His parents, Alexander and Elizabeth Childers were slaves. They removed to Howell Michigan in 1873. He graduated from public schools in 1885, finishing the collegiate preparatory. Came to Kansas same year. Entered employ of Mills McPherson Dry Good Co. as porter and remained with them until 1888, rose to the position of shipping clerk. Entered employ of the Kansas Loan and Trust Company in 1888 at the bottom, remained with them until 1893 when the K. L. and Q. Co. was absorbed by the Trust Company of America. Remained with them until company failed in 1898. At once entered employ of the Receivers of Trust Company of America in charge of the real estate rentals, taxes and insurance. Quit them in September 1900 and in connection with Capt. Wm Reynolds opened The Howard Tailoring Company, which is building up a good business.

HIS NEWSPAPER CAREER.

In 1887 with John L. Waller and Anthony Morton he began publishing The American Citizen, which was afterwards acquired by Kansas City. Kansas parties and is still in existence. In 1890 began with Fred A. Turner the publication of The Times Observer which contributed much to the nomination of B. K. Bruce, Jr. as auditor. He quit The Times Observer in 1892. He began the publication of The Topeka Plaindealer in 1899 in company with Nick Childs. The Plaindealer has reached the high water mark. Has the largest circulation of any western Negro journal. Has a fine job department. Does all kinds of work, book etc. for the Masons, Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias and all church reports.

He was married in 1892 to Miss Mattie Burton of Topeka, a highly cultured, talented lady. No children. Owns property. In 1890 with Geo. W. Gross conceived and started the Interstate Literary Association for operating the various literary clubs and people of the West. The association is growing.

Pen and Pencil Club Election.

The Pen and Pencil Club, composed of young men engaged in newspaper and other literary work, met on Thursday evening in the apartments

of Mr. H. P. Slaughter, 1706 10th street, northwest. After discussing the constitution and partaking of a toothsome collation, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, L. M. Hershaw; first vice president, Daniel Murray; second vice president, R. W. Thompson; recording secretary, W. T. Menard; corresponding secretary, Robert Pelham, Jr.; treasurer, Henry P. Slaughter; governing board, Paul Laurence Dunbar, (chairman), A. L. Manley, S. E. Lacey, W. L. Houston, Paul H. Bray.

Others present were: John H. Paynter, Thomas H. R. Clarke, John F. Smith, F. N. Manley, Wm. L. Pollard, Alphonso O. Stafford, R. C. Simmons and Thomas W. Allen.

The next meeting will be held at the residence of Mr. Robert Pelham, Jr. 2518 Brightwood, Ave. Thursday evening, February 7th.

MUSICAL NEWS NOTES.

The Monumental orchestra seems to have a large a large share of the patronage this season. Their dance music is of the gilt-edge order.

Mr. Fred. A. Sabbs sang a solo in a very acceptable manner at the Asbury church last Sunday. Miss Helen Belle is to sing Sunday morning, Jan. 27th.

The choir of the Shiloh Baptist church has selected Mr. Jos. Wilson formerly of Galbraith church choir as their leader. He is very energetic and should succeed.

Mr. Henry W. Lewis has been selected as the leader of the choir of the 19th Street Baptist choir, recently resigned by our genial little friend Mr. Benj. H. Washington who is taking a course in medicine.

The annual concert and reception of the Amphibians will be given in March, one month later this year than usual. Cards will soon be issued, and full particulars will appear from time to time in the columns of The Colored American.

Many inquiries are being made with reference to the Dvoraks. It is authoritatively stated that their next appearance is being arranged for, and that this community will be given the opportunity to hear their excellent presentation of the "Pirates of Penzance" again.

Mrs. Estelle V. Jarvis is one of the best church organists in Washington. She was formerly a pupil of John Esputa, leader of the Marine Band. Her work is conscientiously done and she is thoroughly competent, yet unassuming. In addition to her services as organist, she has a large class in piano instruction.

It is to be regretted that since the experience connected with the last appearance here of the Williams and Walker company, the best colored talent on the road has given this city a wide berth. This condition of affairs is all the more regretted on account of the fact that the colored theatrical contingent here is much in evidence, and should be accorded far better treatment than is given them.

The first rehearsal of the oratorio "Emanuel" which will be presented at the Asbury church, corner 11th and K streets, n. w., by a selected chorus of sixty voices, Easter Monday evening was held Thursday evening last in the auditorium of the church and was largely attended. The members are selected from the best talent in our several church choirs and musical organizations, and the chorus being trained by Prof. J. Henry Lewis.



Prof. G. F. THEEL, M.D. 527 St. Philadelphia, Pa. Ein deutscher Arzt. Guarantees to cure after all others fail. PRIVATE DISEASES, DISCHARGES, RUNNINGS, ABUSES, GONORRHOEA, etc. (uses no mercury no caustic injections). LOST MANHOOD, Varicocele & Strictures, no cutting. 35 years practical & 6 years hospital experience in Germany. Fresh cases cured in 4 to 10 days. Avoid cheap treatment only offered as a catch. Ruins thousands. Send for Sworn Testimonials & Book exposing medical & electrical frauds. Treatment by Mail. Instant relief. Write.

THE GRAND FOUNTAIN.

United Order of True Reformers.

ORGANIZED January 1, 1881.

Office 604, 606 and 608 N. 2nd St., - - Richmond, V.

An order devoted to the interests of its members, both in their home and business relations. We offer you an opportunity for gilt edged business investment, in enterprises owned and controlled by the Order and managed by colored men, who are members of the Order.

If you are sound in health and mind, of good moral character, not younger than three (3) years nor older than sixty (60) you are eligible to membership. There are two Fountains, the Subordinate and the Rosebud.

SUBORDINATE FOUNTAINS.

To join the Subordinate Fountain you must be between 14 and 16 years of age. You pay \$4.60 to \$6.60 (according to age) as joining fee. If you live in the country you pay 35 cents per month as dues; if in the city, 50 cents per month. You pay as taxes 80 cents per month.

As Sick Benefits you receive from \$6.00 to \$9.00 per month, in weekly payments.

As Death Benefit, your family receives \$75.00 if you die within a year. After one year the Death Benefit is \$125.00.

ROSEBUD FOUNTAINS.



To join the Rosebud Fountain you must be between 8 and 14 year of age. You pay \$1.00, either cash or by installments. The monthly dues are either 15 or 25 cents as Fountains may decide. The annual tax is 10 cents. You receive as Sick Benefit from \$1.50 to \$4.00 per month, in weekly payments.

As Death Benefit, your family will be paid \$24.50 if you die within a year. After one year the Death Benefit is \$37.

In the INSURANCE DEPARTMENT, there are Three (3) Classes:—Class B, Class E, and Class M. All dues are payable annually or quarterly.

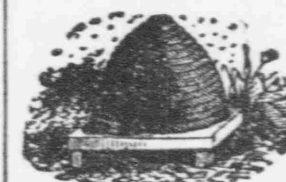
In Class B, the age limit is 14 to 60 years. Fee, \$2.50 to \$4.25. Annual dues, \$4.75 to \$7.60. The Certificate is valued first year at from \$100 to \$33. After one year, its value is \$200 to \$65.

In Class E, the age limit is 14 to 55 years. Fee, \$5 to \$6.50. Annual dues, \$9.50 to \$11.40. The Certificate is valued first year at from \$250 to \$175. After one year its value is \$500 to \$300.

In Class M, the age limit is 14 to 50 years. Fee \$11 to \$13.50. Annual dues, \$21 to \$25. The certificate is valued from date of issue at from \$1,000 to \$700.

You are entitled to a Life Membership in either of the Fountains or in Classe B and E upon purchase of the required amount of Bank stock, which pays a dividend annually of 20 per cent.

The Grand Fountain United Order of True Reformers has paid up to July 29 1900, a total of 3782 Death Benefits, with a grand total of \$521,264.75, over a HALF MILLION DOLLARS.



THE BANK.—In our Savings Bank the Order has a sound and flourishing institution that is a credit not only to the Order but the race as well. It began business April 3, 1889. The capital stock is \$100,000. The business is the same as that of any other regularly constituted bank, and is surrounded by the same safeguards. The stock sells for \$5.00 a share to members, and pays 20 per cent. dividends. Both time and demand deposits are received and 4 per cent. interest is paid on time deposits. The following is a copy of the Cashier's report to Auditor of Public Accounts of Virginia at close of business Sept., 5, 1900 and shows its flourishing condition:—

RESOURCES.

Loans and discounts	\$8,272 80
Other stock, bonds and mortgages	164,423 83
Due from National Banks ..	48,363 22
Banking House	14,000 00
Other real estates	99,588 00
Furniture and Fixtures	6,850 00
Current expenses and taxes paid	1,388 99
Specie, nickels and cents	12,399 80
Paper currency	35,820 00
Total	391,120 84

LIABILITIES.

Capital stock paid in	88,125 00
Surplus fund	80,957 81
Undivided profits	6,826 50
Demand certificate of deposit	96,786 29
Time certificates of deposit ..	118,424 74
Total	391,120 64

The Reformer's Grocery and Feed Store is located at 501 North Sixth St., Richmond, Va., and members of the Order and the public generally are saved 20 per cent. on the cost of food products.

THE REFORMER is the newspaper published by the order from its own office in Richmond, Va. It stands for the voice of the people, representing co-operation and combination of the race and is the Beacon Light, the Headlight, the General Messenger and the General Agent of the Brotherhood. It is \$1.00 per year. A well-equipped job office bids for the work of the people, which is turned out in first class style and at low prices.

Six miles from Richmond, in Henrico County, Va., the Order has purchased 634 acres of land, and established thereon an "Old Folk's Home". With unexampled liberality and broad-minded generosity, the Order does not limit entrance to this home to its members alone, nor even to members families, but the doors are opened to the aged and decrepid of the whole race, regardless of their residence or connections. The Order makes itself the trustee for this glorious charity, and calls upon the whole people, black and white, North, East, South and West to assist by their contribution the carrying out of this praiseworthy idea. April 3rd of each year is set apart as a Grand Rally Day for the Home. Contributions can be forwarded to the cashier of the Reformer's Savings Bank, who will send receipt for same and account for it to The Grand Fountain.

Members of the Order and the public, when visiting Richmond, Va., are invited to stop at The Hotel Reformer, 900 North Sixth St. It is in a pleasant and desirable location. Service is of the best and rates are reasonable.

The Real Estate Department manages and controls all property interests of the Order. The Order now owns 13 buildings, 4 farms, 4 dwellings, 1 hotel with a fee simple value of \$122,500. In addition to these the Order leases 13 buildings.

For any further information, address

W. L. TAYLOR, G. W. Master. W. P. BURKELL, G. W. Secretary.